

BITS OF GOLD

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)
A Department of the Montana State Library
Regional Library of the National Library Service
for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
(NLS/BPH)

Volume 108, Number 4

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LIBRARIAN'S LOG: from the desk of Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian.



BRIEF CLOSURE

In early November, we sent you an announcement regarding our **ONE WEEK** closure from **DECEMBER 8-12, 2008**. It is my goal to be **UP AND RUNNING** with our upgraded system on **DECEMBER 15th**. We received an overwhelming response for extra book orders to get you through this brief closure. The staff and I have had a wonderful time speaking with each of you. **THANK YOU** for your patience during this time.

“EXPECTATIONS” DISCONTINUED

The Braille Institute (www.brailleinstitute.org) in Los Angeles, California, has discontinued producing “Expectations”, an annual anthology of children’s stories produced in Braille, as of its 2007 edition. The Institute’s reasons include many more options available today for those reading Braille, including the Institute’s own “Braille Special Collection”. In addition, agencies such as the National Braille Press (www.nbp.org) and Seedlings (www.seedlings.org) offer many Braille books at prices comparable to print books. We express our appreciation to Editor Douglas Menville who has lead the production of this wonderful anthology for over 50 years.

SPECIAL APPRECIATION

I take this opportunity to thank the many donors who have generously contributed to improving reading services for our patrons. Thanks to you, we have offered phone and radio newspaper services, descriptive video movies and added improvements to our basic reader support services. In 2009, we hope to start adding special digital duplication and printing equipment in preparation for future digital cartridge books. It is my primary goal to positively impact and directly improve patron services and lives. Thank You!

DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS JANUARY – JUNE 2008

The Montana Talking Book Library staff appreciates the thoughtfulness of those who contributed to our library from January 1st to June 30th in 2008.

Acknowledgements are sent to all donors. Our patrons enjoy many years of pleasure from these gifts. Please remember to include the name of the person for whom a memorial is made and the name and address of those to be notified. All gifts are tax-deductible. Many thanks and blessings to the following contributors:

DONATIONS:

Bonnie Anderson	Peg Barnekoff	Cookie Basinger	Joyce Beckes
Birdie Blanton	Laura Brown	Ed Canty	Bonnie Gebhardt
Vernie Kralicek	Ralph Leonard	Duane Lund	Dale Moore
Gloria Purcell	Jim Quinn	Marjorie Smith	Vicki Smith
Jane Weidler	Gwen Williams	Cylene Wood	

MEMORIALS IN HONOR OF:

Harold & Twila Adams – Delane Newgard.

Paul & Shelley Borchert – Delane Newgard.

Earl Conner - Richard & Jeannie Barker; Christine Conner; Maxine Conner; Donald & Nadine Copley; Joan Froland; Galusha, Higgins, & Galusha; Judy & Eldon Litke; Cyndie & Randy Martz; Mary D. Munger.

Gil Gilbertson – Jane Briney.

Eileen Guimond – Joyce Haley.

Lucile Hickman – Ermel & Arnold Campbell; Vicki Jo Cheatham Family; Jann & Phil Colbert; Delores Currier; Ramela & Paul Dicesare; Iva Lou & John Dunn; Margaret Felsted; Mrs. Jackie Fuher; Jeff & Joy Lustgraaf; Judy & Harold McGuire & Family; Alice R. McLeod; Donald J. Opitz & The Poker Group; Barb & Bill Strong; Donna Wynn; Shizuko & James Yamamoto.

Robert Keisling – Viola Davidson; Nancy M. Debevoise; Prudence Draeger; Robert & Teri Farmer; Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Flournoy & Family; Marion & Carol Fyall; Colleen Grass; Merle E. Harris; Toby Helmbrecht; Bob Kiesling; Vern & Hazel Olson; Lynn Ophus; Jane & Tom Patterson, Libby Patterson & Paulie McCown; Laura Rathbone; Rhonda Ritter; Dale & Lorraine Skaalure; Jean Talmage; Melvin Underdal Family; Donald & Paula Wolkerstorfer & Mary Harris;

Mel Sommer – Walter & Isabel Nelson.

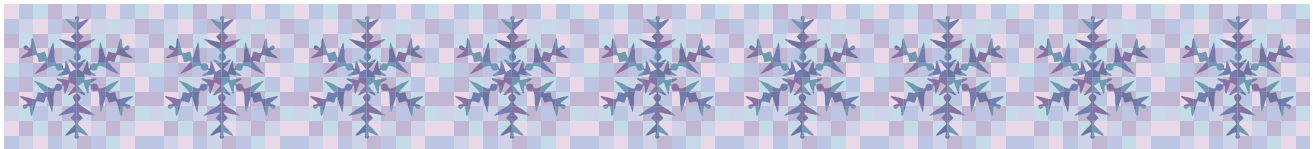
Sidney Whiting - Kerry L. Berg; Ann Brodsky; Dan Bucks; John & Christine Bushnell; Career Training Institute; Linda Carlson; Janet Harper; Sheila Hogan; Judith Johnson; Patricia Keebler; Janet & Patrick Kelly; Jan Lombardi; Bob

Marsenich & Karen McMullen; Bruce Nelson; Richard Oppen; Joyce C. Reed; S&K Technologies, Inc.; Robert Schleicher; Governor Brian Schweitzer & First Lady Nancy Schweitzer; Mary Sexton; Vera B. Shelton; Pamela Tyree; Kathy VanHook; Sheena Wilson.



SKI FOR LIGHT MONTANA

Ski for Light Montana is a nonprofit organization founded in 1975 to promote the physical fitness of blind and visually impaired adults in an environment where "we can't" is replaced with "we can." The 2009 Annual event is at West Yellowstone, MT. Participants arrive March 1st and cross country ski March 2 through 4th, leaving March 5th. A guide is provided to each skier. A motel is provided for first time blind or visually impaired skiers. Any interested parties can contact Ed Durbin, President, Lewistown, at 406-535-7151 or 406-366-0491.



THE MONTANA TALKING BOOK LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED THE FOLLOWING DATES:

**DECEMBER 25 (CHRISTMAS DAY)
JANUARY 1 (NEW YEAR'S DAY)
JANUARY 19 (MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY)
FEBRUARY 16 (PRESIDENTS' DAY)**



**MONTANA TALKING BOOK LIBRARY
1515 EAST SIXTH AVENUE
PO BOX 201800
HELENA MT 59620-1800**

**FREE MATTER
FOR THE BLIND**

Address Service Requested

This newsletter is available on cassette, e-mail and large print upon request or visit our website: <http://msl.mt.gov/tbl>

LIBRARY HOURS: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
PHONE NUMBERS: 1-800-332-3400
WEBOPAC: <http://klasweb.msl.mt.gov>

PHONE HOURS: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
(in Helena) 406-444-2064
WEBBRAILLE: <http://loc.gov/nls/braille>

REGIONAL LIBRARIAN:
COORD. VOL /DIR RECORDING SVC:
COLLECTION MANAGER:
MACHINE LENDING AGENT:
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